

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated December 3, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 3, 2003. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Claims 1-37 remain pending following entry of this response. Claims 1, 13, 19, 25 and 27 have been amended. New claims 35-37 have been added to recite aspects of the invention. Applicants submit that the amendments and new claims do not introduce new matter.

Claims 19-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Nielsen*, U.S. Patent No. 5,813,007 (hereinafter *Nielsen*). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Nielsen discloses a system for automatic notification of changes in bookmark information files. Specifically, a user is notified of sufficient changes to the content of bookmarked Web pages by a server-based subscription application 217. (See, Figure 2 and the definition of "sufficient change" at col. 6, line 65 to col. 7, line 7.) The Web server application 217 is itself notified of content changes by a Web Page Development facility 221. Therefore, *Nielsen* does not teach, show or suggest determining whether a bookmarked address has changed. Nor does *Nielsen* teach, show or suggest determining whether a forwarding network address is provided, in the event that the bookmarked address has changed.

Furthermore, *Nielsen* does not teach, show or suggest scanning the information located at a network address for embedded network addresses (e.g., hypertext links). Nor does *Nielsen* teach, show or suggest storing such embedded network addresses located in the scanned information. Respectfully, the Examiner errs in suggesting that such a step(s) is taught by *Nielsen* at col. 3, lines 1-16. The referenced section of *Nielsen* is directed to manually navigating (a user step) between web pages by clicking on hyperlinks, as is well-known. This section (nor any other section of *Nielsen*) does not disclose a computer implemented automated method of scanning information at network address, and then storing embedded network addresses found in the

information. Therefore, the claims are believed to be allowable, and allowance of the same is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Nielsen*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As noted above, *Nielsen* is not concerned with the problem of changing network addresses which have been bookmarked. Rather, *Nielsen* is directed only to notifying a user of content changes to a bookmarked web page. In this regard, Applicants respectfully note that the Examiner's understanding of *Nielsen* at col. 12, lines 15-67 is incorrect. The cited passage of *Nielsen* describes checking "whether the URL of the modified web page matches the [stored] URL". If the URLs match, an update notification e-mail message is sent to the subscriber. (Col. 12, line 48-51.) If the URLs do not match, no action is taken. (Col. 12, line 46-47.) The described operation is directed to notifying a user of content changes for those URLs for which the user has requested notification. Accordingly, since a match is needed between the URL of the modified web page and the stored URL, a user receives no notification if a Web Page has moved to another address. More generally, no action of any kind is taken in the absence of matching URLs. Therefore, the claims are believed to be allowable, and allowance of the same is respectfully requested.

In conclusion, the reference cited by the Examiner, neither alone nor in combination, teach, show, or suggest aspects of the present invention. Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

The prior art made of record is noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicants' disclosure than the primary

references cited in the office action. Therefore, it is believed that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not deemed necessary for a full and complete response to this office action. Accordingly, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, beginning at line 9 with the following:

The problems associated with changing the URL of a bookmarked site, or the contents of the URL, are particularly detrimental in cases where the bookmarked URL constitutes an index page. In general, an index page is an HTML document having multiple links associated therewith, typically related by a common category. One example of an index page is Javagems having the URL "www.javagems.com". Javagems is a website having embedded links which are related to the Java programming language. Users typically bookmark this page or similar pages because they provide a convenient way of organizing and loading websites according to similar content. Thus, in cases where the bookmarked page becomes irretrievable due to a change in the URL, the user has lost access, not only to the bookmarked page, but to each of the associated and embedded links.

Please replace the paragraph on page 15, beginning at line 20 with the following:

Figure 8 illustrates the formatting for one illustrated embodiment of the verification log 200. The action taken with regard to a first URL, "http://www.Bookmark1.com", indicates that the bookmark was replaced with a temporary HTML file suggesting that the original bookmark could not be retrieved. The action taken with regard to a second URL, "http://www.Bookmark2.com", indicates that the bookmark has been moved and therefore the stored URL was replaced with a forwarding URL detected during the verification scan.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A method of verifying a bookmark, comprising the steps:
 - (a) storing, as a bookmark, a first network information address having information associated therewith in at least a first data structure; [as a bookmark; and]
 - (b) [determining whether the first network information address is retrievable by] automatically searching, at a predefined frequency, for the information located at the first network information address to determine whether the first network information address is retrievable;[, wherein the first network information address is retrievable if the first network information address is located,] and
 - (c) wherein if the first network information address is retrievable, determining whether the information has been moved to a second network information address different from the first network information address.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising[, (c)] generating a verification table containing the first data field and the one or more second data fields.

19. (Amended) A computer implemented automated method for maintaining bookmarks, comprising:
 - (a) storing a bookmark network information address having information associated therewith in a data structure;
 - (b) scanning the information for one or more embedded network information addresses, wherein if any embedded network information addresses are found, storing the embedded network information addresses in the data structure; and
 - (c) periodically determining whether the bookmark network information address has changed, wherein if the bookmark network information address has changed, determining whether a forwarding network information address is provided, and wherein if the bookmark network information address has not changed, determining whether the information has changed.

25. (Amended) The method of claim[23]19, wherein if (c) indicates that the bookmark network information address has not changed, determining whether the information has changed.

27. (Amended) A signal bearing medium for storing a program that when executed by a computer performs an operation [method] comprising[, steps of]:

- (a) downloading a bookmark network information address having information associated therewith;
- (b) storing the bookmark network information address in a data structure;
- (c) scanning the information for one or more embedded network information addresses, wherein if any embedded network information addresses are found, storing the embedded network information addresses in the data structure; and
- (d) periodically determining whether the information is retrievable at the bookmark network information address, wherein:
 - (i) if the information is not retrievable at the bookmark network information address, determining whether a forwarding network information address is provided, wherein if the forwarding network information address is provided, replacing the bookmark network information address in the data structure with the forwarding network information address, and wherein if a forwarding network information address is not provided, generating a backup document containing the embedded network information addresses stored in the data structure; and wherein
 - (ii) if the information is retrievable at the bookmark network information address, determining whether the information has changed, wherein if the information has changed, repeating (c).